

Wyoming Landscape Conservation Initiative 2011 Project Ranking Score Sheet

Project Name: _____

BPS#: _____ **Total Score:** _____

Note: If the proposed project is a multi-year project and has been previously funded by WLCI, a separate review will be completed to ensure the project is still relevant to the goals and priorities of the WLCI. All other projects will be evaluated using this Project Ranking Score Sheet.

Project was previously funded by WLCI.	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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PROJECT ACTION NEEDS SHEET

If the answer to any of the following questions is “no,” the project lead will be contacted to determine if actions can be implemented in a timely manner for the project to go forward in this ranking cycle.

Does the project address WLCI goals and priorities, and does the proposed project occur within the WLCI area or directly benefit the WLCI area?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Is the project application complete (including GIS and other supporting information)?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Did this project include a management plan or is this project consistent with an existing approved management plan (e.g. BLM Resource Management Plan, USFS Land and Resource Management Plan).	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Has a monitoring plan been provided or discussed with a member of the USGS Team or the WLCI Monitoring Team?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
If project is to be completed on federal land (USFS, BLM, FWS, NPS), has the appropriate project planning checklist been completed?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
Is the archeology clearance complete or does it have a high likelihood that it will be complete before the tentative project starting date?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
Is NEPA clearance complete or does it have a high likelihood that it will be complete before the tentative project starting date?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
Are the project goals and objectives clearly identified and stated in the proposal and there is a high probability of success (as measured against the stated goals and objectives and expected and intended results).	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Has coordination between project developers and the landowners/land managers that are directly affected or adjacent to a project area occurred?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Have species benefits and project goals, objectives, and strategies contained within this proposal been reviewed by a wildlife or aquatic biologist from WGF and federal agencies?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Are the materials and labor costs associated with this project reasonable when compared to similar projects?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Commitment to provide Data and Project Completion Report is made. Previously funded projects have completed scheduled reports.	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

GOAL ACCOMPLISHMENT

Goal 1 – Manage, conserve, restore or enhance the 5 focus communities to ensure sustainability of fish and wildlife populations in the WLCI area	5
Goal 2 – Support opportunities for sustainable agriculture	5
Goal 3 – Improve the understanding of ecological processes across southwest Wyoming	5
Goal 4 – Synthesize information and facilitate communication to inform and encourage responsible development and sustain healthy landscapes.	5
Goal 5 – Ensure effective relationships exist among partners, stakeholders, and the public through internal and external partnerships.	5
Goal 6 – Provide mechanisms to ensure effective data and information exchange.	5

Points _____

LPDT PRIORITY

Project is number one priority for LPDT.	30
Project is second priority for LPDT.	22
Project is third priority for LPDT.	14
Project is fourth priority for LPDT.	6
Project is fifth priority for LPDT.	1

Points _____

FUNDING CONSIDERATIONS

PARTNERS

Partners are involved in the project and are providing 50% or more of the funding (monetary or in-kind) that will help leverage WLCI dollars.	10
Partners are involved in the project and are providing 10%-49.9% of the funding (monetary or in-kind) that will help leverage WLCI dollars.	5
Partners are involved in the project and are providing less than 10% of the funding (monetary or in-kind) that will help leverage WLCI dollars.	3
Project did not reflect partnerships or contributions.	0

Points _____

BIOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS

CONSERVATION FOCUS AREA

Project is in a WLCI Priority Work Area (based on WGFD priority areas, Sage Grouse Conservation Strategy areas, RMP ACEC and WSA areas, BLM Project Program Elements) and benefits a focus community as identified in the WLCI MOU.	20
Project benefits a focus community but is not in a WLCI priority work area.	7
Project is in a WLCI Priority Work Area but does not benefit a focus community.	3
Project is not in a WLCI Priority Work Area and does not benefit a focus community.	0

Points _____

ESSENTIAL LIFE STAGES

Project directly improves migration corridors or crucial seasonal habitats/critical life stages.	15
Project does not directly improve but provides some benefits to migration corridors or crucial seasonal habitats/critical life stages.	5
Project does not benefit migration corridor or seasonal habitat	0

Points _____

ECOSYSTEM FUNCTION

Project benefits long-term ecosystem function (species assemblages and multiple habitats) at a landscape scale (connectivity of habitats i.e. aspen regeneration).	20
Project benefits long-term ecosystem function at a more localized scale (some rock sills, some fencing).	9
Project benefits short-term ecosystem function (intermediate actions until long term actions can be put in place, an emergency fix).	3
Project does not benefit ecosystem function (small, localized, and does not inform processes for the WLCI area, such as a single guzzler).	0

Points _____

AT-RISK SPECIES / SPECIES BENEFITED

Project will benefit at-risk species (Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN), special status, or threatened and endangered species.	20
Project will benefit multiple species and/or high interest species (migration corridors for some big game species and sport fish, some big game parturition areas, etc.).	10
Project does not benefit at-risk species and high interest species.	0

Points _____

WATER DEVELOPMENT AND GRAZING

Project promotes rangeland health and WLCI goals and objectives. Project alleviates barriers and facilitates access to existing forage and/or water for wildlife and livestock.	10
Project plan does not provide improved forage or water management for wildlife or livestock.	0

Points _____

THREATS AND RISKS

Threats and risks are high and are occurring now. A 1 to 2 year delay in treatment could potentially have detrimental effects (e.g., catastrophic wildfire and noxious weeds, ESA listings).	15
Threats and risks have a potential to be high but are not immediate. A 1 to 2 year delay in treatment will not adversely affect desired outcome. (Aspen treatments, deer crossings and fence conversions where mortality is known to occur, water improvements)	10
Threats and risks may occur but is not under such a high threat and risk level (e.g., juniper encroachment outside WLCI priority areas, wildlife friendly fencing, disease, and insect outbreaks).	5
Threats and risks are low.	0

Points _____

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PLANS

Project will help meet the goals and objectives identified in other plans. (Federal, State, County, and/or local conservation plans)	5
Other plans have not been referenced, but the project may help meet goals and objectives of other plans. (i.e., those plans identified by Coordination Team)	1
Project will not help meet the goals and objectives of other plans.	0

Points _____

FUTURE MANAGEMENT

Project proposal includes details on future management that will ensure the long-term success of the project.	10
Project proposal addresses only short-term measures to help facilitate short-term project success.	3
Project does not include details for future management or project success.	0

Points _____

GEOGRAPHIC RELATIONSHIPS

Enhancement Projects (long-term sustainability)	
Project is within, near, or adjacent to a protected area and under little threat of development (public land not currently leased, private land in conservation easement, NRCS long-term management contract, other signed agreements or previous WLCI projects, etc.).	15
Project is under little threat of development in the next 20-30 years (leased but with low development potential or areas not likely to have residential expansion).	5
Project area has the potential to provide good short-term habitat needs, but is under threat of development and other destructive habitat practices.	0
Points _____	
OR	
Conservation Easement Projects	
Project area is providing crucial habitat or migration corridors, and is under threat of development and other destructive habitat practices.	15
Project is under little threat of development in the next 20-30 years.	0
Points _____	

TOTAL (200 possible) _____